Amendments to the Claims

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Please amend claims 1, 11, 19, 24 and 26, as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

retrieving a mission module with a vessel, the vessel operable to transport passengers from a first terrestrial location to a second terrestrial location; and

installing the mission module in the vessel, the installed module operable to ~~influence non-module~~enable distribution of resources from the module ~~of~~ to the vessel.

2. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein installing the mission module comprises moving the module into the vessel via a ramp.

3. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein installing the mission module comprises:

lowering a ramp from the vessel;

moving the module into the vessel via the ramp; and

raising the ramp into a ramp storage area disposed beneath the module.

4. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein installing the mission module comprises installing the module in a bay of the vessel.

5. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the vessel comprises an aircraft.

6. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the vessel comprises a land vehicle.

7. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the vessel comprises a ship.

8. (Original) The method of claim 1 wherein the vessel comprise a space ship.

9. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising maneuvering the vessel to the mission module before retrieving the module.

10. (Original) The method of claim 1, further comprising maneuvering the mission module to the vessel before retrieving the module.

11. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

maneuvering a vessel toward a mission module such that a bay of the vessel captures the module, the vessel operable to transport passengers from a first terrestrial location to a second terrestrial location; and

coupling a system interface of the mission module to a system interface of the vessel, thereby enabling distribution of resources from the module to the vessel.

12. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the bay is disposed in the bow of the vessel and the maneuvering comprises moving the vessel forward.

13. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the vessel is a multi-hull, water-born ship.

14. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the coupling comprises lifting the mission module into the bay of the vessel.

15. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 14 wherein the lifting comprises lifting the mission module with a crane system.

16. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the coupling comprises lowering the vessel to the mission module.

17. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 16 wherein the lowering comprises reducing the freeboard of the vessel with a ballasting system.

18. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 11 wherein the coupling comprises attaching the vessel to the mission module via a ship-to-module interface.

19. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

disengaging a mission module from a vessel, the mission module located in a bay of the vessel and operable to enable distribution of ~~influence non-module~~ resources from the module to ~~of~~ the vessel, the vessel operable to transport passengers from a first terrestrial location to a second terrestrial location; and

removing the module from the bay.

20. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, further comprising maneuvering the vessel away from the removed module.

21. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19, further comprising maneuvering the removed module away from the vessel.

22. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19 wherein the removing comprises sliding the mission module down a ramp.

23. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 19 wherein the disengaging comprises raising the vessel away from the mission module by increasing the freeboard of the vessel with a ballasting system.

24. (Currently Amended) A method, comprising:

removing a first mission module from a vessel, the vessel operable to transport passengers from a first terrestrial location to a second terrestrial location; and

installing a second mission module in the vessel, the second mission module operable to enable distribution of resources from the module to ~~influence non-module resources of~~ the vessel.

25. (Previously Presented) The method of claim 24 wherein installing the second mission module comprises retrieving the second mission module from water while the vessel is floating in the water.

26. (Currently Amended) A vessel comprising a frame operable to retrieve a module, the module operable to enable distribution of resources from the module to ~~influence non-module resources of~~ the vessel, the module further operable to be installed in the vessel, the vessel operable to transport passengers from a first terrestrial location to a second terrestrial location.